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# Press Release

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## **SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS (SCAG) REGIONAL COUNCIL VOTES TO RECOMMEND SB 375 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSION REDUCTION REGIONAL TARGETS FOR 2020 AND 2035**

**Los Angeles CA-** The Regional Council of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) voted today to recommend to the California Air Resources Board (ARB) targets for greenhouse gas emission (GHG) reductions. In its action, the Regional Council recommended reduction targets of 6% for 2020 and 8% for 2035. The ARB will review this matter on September 23rd in Sacramento.

The Regional Council's vote includes a commitment to work with ARB to consider increased targets if ARB accepts the 11 conditions outlined in the staff analysis, including restoration of funding for transportation, especially transit, continued leadership by the regional partners to increase availability of State funds for the region, increased funding for non-motorized transportation, expanded funding for SCAG's Compass Blueprint demonstration projects--aimed at voluntary funding for cities/counties interested in sustainable planning objectives and implementation of a Green Cities voluntary recognition and awards program.

"I think we had a good policy discussion today and all sides of the issue were heard," said SCAG Executive Director Hasan Ikhata. "We look forward to working with our partners and the ARB to move our region forward," Ikhata said. The Air Resources Board will act at its meeting on September 23rd to set the GHG emission reduction target for the region and the entire state.

By law, SCAG is required to prepare and submit to the ARB a Sustainable Communities Strategy by 2012. "We will work collaboratively with all of our members and stakeholders to prepare the plan," said SCAG President Larry McCallon. "Cities are interested in this type of planning. The SCAG region

has worked on or completed 88 projects in its signature Compass Blueprint program and in August, 36 cities submitted sustainable community planning grant applications and SCAG is expanding this successful program,” McCallon said.

A detailed report on the recommended regional emission reduction targets is available at:  
<http://www.scag.ca.gov/committees/rc090210.htm>.

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***About SCAG***

*SCAG is the nation’s largest metropolitan planning organization, representing six counties, 189 cities and more than 18 million residents. SCAG undertakes a variety of planning and policy initiatives to plan for a livable and sustainable Southern California now and in the future. For more information about SCAG’s regional efforts, please visit [www.scag.ca.gov](http://www.scag.ca.gov).*